

25X1

25X1
25X1

25X1
25X1

25X1
25X1

SECRET

(c) NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

25X1

REFERENCE:

ATTACHMENT TO M-7044
16 JULY 1969
PAGE 1 OF 3

25X1

ENEMY TAKE-OVER AT MUONG SOUI (LIMA SITE 108)
PLAINE DES JARRES, NORTHERN LAOS
19-31N 102-53E

25X1

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

MUONG SOUI WAS THE MAIN NEUTRALIST (PRO GOVERNMENT) BASE IN NORTHERN LAOS. THE KEY STAGING AREA WAS OVERRUN BY PATHET LAO AND NORTH VIETNAMESE FORCES DURING THE LAST WEEK OF JUNE 1969.

2. LOCATION:

ON THE WESTERN EDGE OF THE PLAINE DES JARRES ON ROUTE 7/4 IN NORTHERN LAOS. MUONG SOUI IS APPROX. 55 NM SOUTHEAST OF LUANG PRABANG.

3. BACKGROUND:

THE COMMUNISTS HAD MADE CLAIMS EARLIER THIS YEAR THAT THEY WOULD ATTACK MUONG SOUI IN MARCH OR APRIL, BUT GEN. VANG PAO'S PLAINE DES JARRES OFFENSIVE WHICH BEGAN IN LATE MARCH DISRUPTED THEIR PLANS AND FORCED A POSTPONEMENT OF THE ATTACK.

These notes have been prepared for briefing purposes only and should not be used for detailed analytical work. Their use should be restricted to the particular briefing boards (s) they were prepared for and must be considered valid only for the reporting period as indicated by the date of issue. For information concerning these notes contact Chief, Imagery Exploitation Group NPIC.

GROUP 1: EXCLUDED FROM
AUTOMATIC DOWNGRADING
AND DECLASSIFICATION

SECRET

25X1

SECRET

(c) NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

REFERENCE:

ATTACHMENT TO M-7044
16 July 1969
PAGE 2 OF 3

4. MISSION READOUT:

[REDACTED] REVEALS A 5600' x 110' AIRSTRIP, ADJACENT
STRONGPOINTS AND VILLAGE AREAS. NO AIRCRAFT ARE OBSERVED.

[REDACTED] RELAYED VIA COMPASS LINK SHOWS TWO RUSSIAN-
BUILT PT-76 TANKS LOCATED WITHIN THE PERIMETER OF THE MAIN STRONGPOINT. FOUR
TANKS REPORTEDLY WERE DESTROYED. TWO PROBABLE U.S. M-34 TRUCKS ARE NEARBY. (INSET 1)

STRIKE [REDACTED] RELAYED VIA COMPASS LINK SHOWS THE
MAIN PORTION OF THE SUPPORT BUILDINGS AND CONSIDERABLE MATERIEL IN FLAMES. (INSET 2)

5. REMARKS:

ON 24 JUNE AN ESTIMATED TWO TO THREE COMMUNIST BATTALIONS SUPPORTED BY
TANKS AND MORTARS ATTACKED MUONG SOUI (LIMA SITE 108). THE ENEMY ADVANCED AS FAR AS
THE AIRFIELD, AND AT ONE POINT IN THE FIGHTING APPROXIMATELY 200 OF THE ENEMY
OCCUPIED THE AIRSTRIP. BY MID AFTERNOON PRO-OVERNMENT TROOPS, AIDED BY TACTICAL
AIR STRIKES, HAD RETAKEN THE FIELD AND HAD FORCED THE ENEMY TO PULL BACK TO THE
SOUTHEAST. BY EARLY EVENING THE FIGHTING HAD DECREASED TO SNIPER HARASSMENT BY THE
ENEMY AND SCATTERED SMALL ARMS CLASHES. DURING THE NIGHT OF THE 24TH OF JUNE FOUR
AC-47 GUNSHIPS ASSISTED IN THE DEFENSE OF MUONG SOUI AS PRO GOVERNMENT FORCES
REPULSED TWO MINOR ENEMY PROBES. THE FIGHTING REMAINED LIGHT ON THE 25TH AND 26TH
WITH INTERMITTENT SHELLING AND SMALL ARMS CLASHES THROUGHOUT THE AREA. THE

These notes have been prepared for briefing purposes only and should not be used for detailed analytical work. Their use should be restricted to the particular briefing boards (s) they were prepared for and must be considered valid only for the reporting period as indicated by the date of issue. For information concerning these notes contact Chief, Imagery Exploitation Group NPIC.

SECRET

SECRET**(c) NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER**

25X1

REFERENCE:

ATTACHMENT TO M-7044
16 JULY 1969
PAGE 3 OF 3

25X1

COMMUNISTS LAUNCHED ANOTHER TANK-SUPPORTED INFANTRY ATTACK IN THE EARLY MORNING OF THE 27TH. AGAIN THE FRIENDLY FORCES, SUPPORTED BY AIRSTRIKES, REPELLED THE ENEMY'S ADVANCE. WITH THE COMMUNISTS VIRTUALLY SURROUNDING MUONG SOUI AND ONLY ABOUT 500 PRO-GOVERNMENT DEFENDERS LEFT, A MEETING OF HIGH RANKING MILITARY AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WAS HELD AND THE DECISION WAS MADE TO EVACUATE ALL PRO-GOVERNMENT FORCES. THE EVACUATION REPORTEDLY BEGAN AT 1430 HOURS ON THE 27TH.

ON 1 JULY 1,500-2,000 PRO-GOVERNMENT TROOPS UNDER THE COMMAND OF GEN. VANG PAO BEGAN A COUNTEROFFENSIVE TO RETAKE MUONG SOUI. THE GOVERNMENT TROOPS ENCOUNTERED ONLY LIGHT RESISTANCE IN THEIR INITIAL CLEARING ACTION NEAR THE ROUTE 7/13 ROAD JUNCTION SOME 40 MILES WEST OF MUONG SOUI. THE COMMUNISTS APPEAR TO BE REGROUPING IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN THEIR DEFENSE AT MUONG SOUI WHERE LARGE NUMBERS OF NORTH VIETNAMESE AND PATHET LAO TROOPS ARE REPORTEDLY DUG IN. THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORT TO RETAKE MUONG SOUI HAS BEEN SUPPORTED BY AIRSTRIKES AS WEATHER PERMITS.

MISSION:



25X1

MAP REFERENCE: AMS SERIES L7012, SHEET 5569 I

AMS SERIES JOG 1501, SHEET NE 48-1

These notes have been prepared for briefing purposes only and should not be used for detailed analytical work. Their use should be restricted to the particular briefing boards (s) they were prepared for and must be considered valid only for the reporting period as indicated by the date of issue. For information concerning these notes contact Chief, Imagery Exploitation Group NPIC.

SECRET

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL



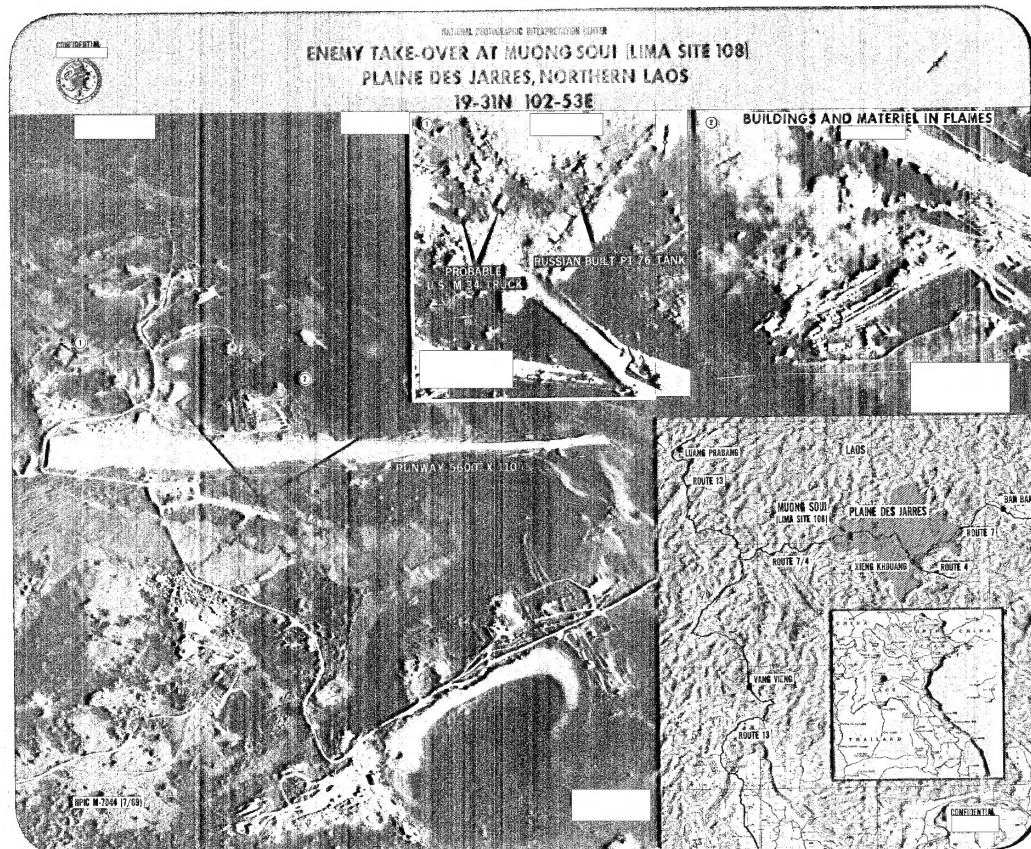
NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

M 7044 /69
NPIC CONTROL NUMBER

REPRODUCTION OF THIS DOCUMENT IN WHOLE OR IN PART IS PROHIBITED EXCEPT WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

NATIONAL SUBSTANTIVE
BRIEFING AIDS
COLLECTION

RETURN TO:
BRIEFING AIDS UNIT
ROOM 4S-447A



25X1
25X1

25X1
25X1

25X1
25X1

25X1
25X1

25X1

SECRET



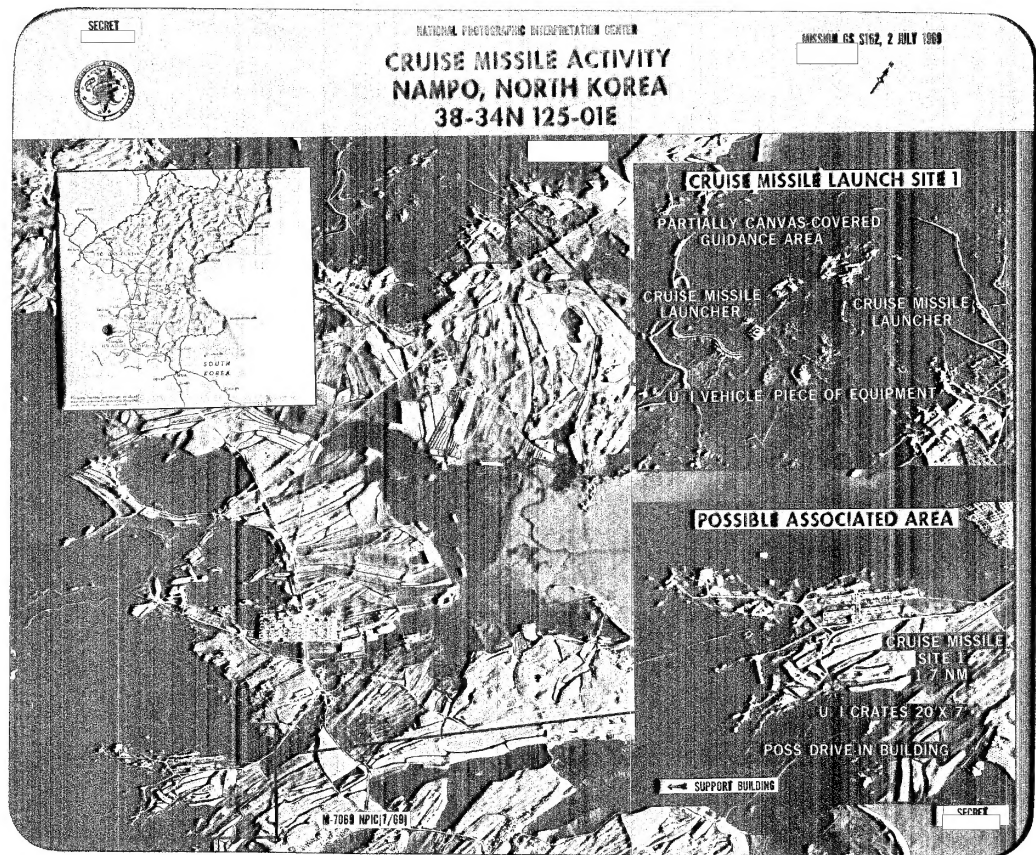
NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

M 7069 /69

NPIC CONTROL NUMBER

REPRODUCTION OF THIS DOCUMENT IN WHOLE OR IN PART IS PROHIBITED EXCEPT WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

SECRET



25X1

25X1
25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1